

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00083 210609Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-07 L-03 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12  
/086 W

-----097209 210611Z /15

O P 201620Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6626  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MAPUTO 00083

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: MZ, RH  
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MUGABE GIVES IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE

1. PFF CC-LEADER ROBERT MUGABE HELD AN IMPROMPTU PRESS  
CONFERENCE IN MAPUTO AFTERNOON OF 20 JANUARY TO CLARIFY, AS  
HE PUT IT, "AN INACCURATE REPORT" FROM BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE  
THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AGREED TO GO TO MALTA IN ORDER TO DIS-  
CUSS CEASE FIRE ARRANGEMENTS.

2. MUGABE SAID THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HAD AGREED TO GO TO MALTA  
IN ORDER TO DISCUSS THE MECHANISM FOR THE TRANSFER OF POWER  
(BOTH POLITICAL AND MILITARY) FROM THE BRITISH TO THE PATRIOTIC  
FRONT. THEY WERE ALSO GOING TO MALTA TO TEST THE SERIOUSNESS OF  
BRITAIN'S DETERMINATION TO REMOVE SMITH FROM POWER AND TRANSFER  
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POWER TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. THEY WOULD, OF COURSE, BE AGREE-  
ABLE TO DISCUSSING A CEASE FIRE, MUGABE SAID, BUT ONLY AFTER  
ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRANSFER OF POWER FROM THE BRITISH TO THE  
PATRIOTIC FRONT HAD BEEN MADE.

3. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, MUGABE SAID THE PATRIOTIC FRONT  
WILL CONTINUE TO INTENSIFY THE ARMED STRUGGLE, WHICH THEY

REGARD AS UNRELATED TO THE MALTA TALKS. IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION, HE SAID THAT ONE OF THE PROBLEMS WOULD BE THE DISPOSITION OF SMITH'S ARMY DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. THE PATRIOTIC FRONT CONTUINED TO INSIST THAT SMITH'S ARMY BE DISBANDED, ALTHOUGH MUGABE REITERATED HIS WILLINGNESS TO INTEGRATE ACCEPTABLE ELEMENTS INTO THE NEW ZIMBABWEAN ARMY WHICH WOULD BE BASED ON THE PATRIOTIC FRONT ARMY,

4. MUGABE SAID THAT HE HAD ALREADY BEEN IN COMMUNICATION WITH JOSHUA NKOMK AND BOTH WERE WILLING TO POSTPONE THE START OF THE PF/UR TALKS UNTIL 30 JANUARY AS SECRETARY OWEN HAD REQUESTED.

5. MUGABE SAID THAT THE ZANU AND ZAPU DELEGATIONS WOULD CONSIST OF ABOUT 12 PERSONS INCLUDING SECRETARIES AND MILITARY SPECIALISTS.DE PREE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MAPUTO00083  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3741439  
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**Subject:** RHODESIA: MUGABE GIVES IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE  
**TAGS:** SOPN, PDEV, MZ, RH, (MUGABE, ROBERT)  
**To:** STATE CAPE TOWN  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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